FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: HB0281 Title: Eliminate position of commissioner of higher education **Primary Sponsor:** Sales, S **Status:** As Introduced Chuck Swysgood, Budget Director Date Sponsor signature Date **Fiscal Summary** FY 2004 FY 2005 **Difference Difference Expenditures:** General Fund \$0 Unknown **Revenue:** \$0 General Fund \$0 \$0 Unknown **Net Impact on General Fund Balance:** Significant Local Gov. Impact **Technical Concerns** Significant Long-Term Impacts Included in the Executive Budget Dedicated Revenue Form Attached Needs to be included in HB 2

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. The bill calls for a vote of the electorate on an amendment to the Montana Constitution to eliminate the requirement that the Board of Regents (BOR) appoint a Commissioner of Higher Education (CHE). The election would not occur until November of 2004, which is approximately 42% through fiscal year 2005.
- 2. Salary, benefits and operating expenditures that are specifically associated with the CHE is about \$163,500 per year. These costs are paid 100 percent from the general fund.
- 3. The fiscal impact is undeterminable for two reasons.
 - a. The BOR would still have the ability to hire needed staff to carry out its duties as assigned in 20-25-301, MCA.
 - b. The result of the general election in November 2004 is not known.